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ACTION EAP-00

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INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00
	EB-00	DODE-00	NEA-06	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSO-00
	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	FAAE-00	CCO-00	DOE-00	STR-17
	INRE-00	CA-02	USSS-00	JUSE-00	FBIE-00	M-01	DS-01
	DSE-00	SCT-02	E-01	P-02	T-01	/057 W	

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O 030152Z DEC 87
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5606
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RANGOON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

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E.O. 12356: NA
TAGS: EAIR, PTER, KS
SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR WRECKAGE OF KE 858 CRASH

REF: RANGOON 7334

1. ON DECEMBER 3, (0930 SEOUL TIME) B.H. WON, THE GENERAL
MANAGER OF KOREAN AIR'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
CALLED EMBOFF TO PROVIDE A STATUS REPORT OF THE AIRLINE'S
SEARCH EFFORTS FOR THE WRECKAGE OF KE 858. WON SAID THAT
WRECKAGE OF KE 858 HAD STILL NOT BEEN FOUND AND THAT KAL
REPRESENTATIVES ARE STILL SEARCHING BOTH IN THAI AND
BURMESE TERRITORY. HE SAID NO HARD EVIDENCE IS YET
AVAILABLE AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PLANE CRASHED IN
THE OCEAN WEST OF THAILAND HAS NOT BEEN RULED OUT.

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2. HE SAID THAI AND BURMESE AUTHORITIES ARE HELPING KAL,
BUT BAD WEATHER AND DIFFICULT TERRAIN GREATLY HINDER THEIR
EFFORTS. WON DID MENTION THAT THAI AUTHORITIES LACK THE

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SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL NEEDED TO CARRY OUT
SUCH A DIFFICULT SEARCH. HE SAID THE ROKG HAD OFFERED TO
SEND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST IN THAI SEARCH EFFORTS
BUT THAI AUTHORITIES HAD NOT ACCEPTED THE OFFER.

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